IN THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application.

1   1.   (original) In a client-server environment, a method for providing transparency in a
2   gateway of an IP network comprising the steps of:

3   interrogating a directory comprising data for each end-user of said IP network;

4   retrieving parameters associated with said data for a first end-user in response to an
5   access request from a client application of said first end-user;

6   accessing an application server on behalf of said client application in accordance with
7   said retrieved parameters for said first end-user; and

8   relaying data between said client application and said application server.

1   2.   (currently amended) The method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of:

2   creating, in said gateway of said IP network, [a] the directory including entries for every
3   end-user on said IP network.

1   3.   (original) The method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of:

2   updating, in said gateway of said network, the directory of said end-users, said step of
3   updating the directory including the steps of:

4   disabling entries for those of said end-users that disconnect;

5   ·   enabling entries for those of said end-users that connect; and

6   updating said entries of said end-users comprising dynamic parameters whenever said
7   parameters are changing while connected.

1   4.   (currently amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein the step of retrieving

2   parameters associated with said end-user for said <u>access</u> request from said client application

3   includes the steps of:

4   obtaining leading data from said client application having issued said <u>access</u> request for

5   said end-user;

6   parsing said leading data;

7   determining a protocol said client application is currently using;

8   interrogating said directory at an entry corresponding to said first end-user; retrieving

9   parameters associated with said protocol; and

10   executing said protocol in accordance with said parameters associated with said protocol.

1   5.   (original) The method according to claim 1 further including the step of informing said

2   end-user of said client application that a server application is unavailable if a link to said

3   application server is not established.

1   6.   (original)   A data processing system for providing a gateway of an IP network,

2   comprising:

3   circuitry operable for interrogating a directory comprising data for each end-user of said

4   IP network;

5   circuitry operable for retrieving parameters associated with said data for a first end-user

6   in response to an access request from a client application of said first end-user; and

7   circuitry operable for accessing an application server on behalf of said client application

8   in accordance with said retrieved parameters for said first end-user; and

9   circuitry operable for relaying data between said client application and said application

10   server.

1   7.   (currently amended) The system according to claim 6 further comprising:

2   circuitry operable for creating, in said gateway of said IP network, [a] the directory

3   including entries for every end-user on said IP network.

1   8.   (original) The system according to claim 6 further comprising:

2   circuitry operable for updating, in said gateway of said network, the directory of said end-

3   users, said circuitry operable for updating the directory including:

4   circuitry operable for disabling entries for those of said end-users that disconnect;

5   circuitry operable for enabling entries for those of said end-users that connect; and

6   circuitry operable for updating said entries of said end-users comprising dynamic

7   parameters whenever said parameters are changing while connected.

1   9.   (currently amended) The system according to claim 6 wherein the circuitry operable for

2   retrieving parameters associated with said end-user for said access request from said client

3   application includes:

4   circuitry operable for obtaining leading data from said client application having issued

5   said access request for said end-user;

6   circuitry operable for parsing said leading data;

7   circuitry operable for determining a protocol said client application is currently using;

8   circuitry operable for interrogating said directory at an entry corresponding to said first

9   end-user; and

10   circuitry operable for retrieving parameters associated with said protocol;

11   executing said protocol in accordance with said parameters associated with said protocol.

1   10.   (original) The system according to claim 6 further including the circuitry operable for

2   informing said end-user of said client application that a server application is unavailable if a link

3   to said application server is not established.

1   11.   (original) A computer program product embodied in a tangible storage medium, the

2   program product for providing transparency in a gateway of an IP network, the program product

3   including a program of instructions for performing the steps of:

4   interrogating a directory comprising data for each end-user of said IP network;

5   retrieving parameters associated with said data for a first end-user in response to an

6   access request from a client application of said first end-user;

7   accessing an application server on behalf of said client application in accordance with

8   said retrieved parameters for said first end-user; and

9   relaying data between said client application and said application server.

1   12.   (currently amended) The computer program product according to claim 11, further

2   comprising instructions for performing the step of:

3   creating, in said gateway of said IP network, [a] the directory including entries for every

4   end user on said IP network.

1   13.   (original) The program product according to claim 11 further comprising instructions for

2   performing the step of:

3   updating, in said gateway of said network, the directory of said end-users, said step of

4   updating the directory including the steps of:

5   disabling entries for those of said end-users that disconnect;

6   enabling entries for those of said end-users that connect; and

7   updating said entries of said end-users comprising dynamic parameters whenever said

8   parameters are changing while connected.

1   14.   (currently amended) The program product according to claim 11 wherein the step of

2   retrieving parameters associated with said end-user for said <u>access</u> request from said client

3   application includes the steps of:

4   obtaining leading data from said client application having issued said <u>access</u> request for

5   said end-user;

6   parsing said leading data;

7   determining a protocol said client application is currently using;

8   interrogating said directory at an entry corresponding to said first end-user; retrieving

9   parameters associated with said protocol; and

10   executing said protocol in accordance with said parameters associated with said protocol.

1   15.   (original) The program product according to claim 11 further including instructions

2   for performing the step of informing said end-user of said client application that a server

3   application is unavailable if a link to said application server is not established.